

Structural and Vibrational Study of Heme Carbonyls With Solid-State Interactions

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We report the molecular structures and spectroscopic data of four low-spin (carbonyl)iron(II) tetraphenylporphyrinates, $[\text{Fe}(\text{TPP})(\text{CO})(\text{L})]$, where L = 1-methylimidazole, 2-methylimidazole, 1,2-dimethylimidazole (no solvate) and 1,2-dimethylimidazole (toluene solvate). These four derivatives show a large range of CO stretching frequencies in the solid-state ($1926\text{--}1968\text{ cm}^{-1}$). This variation from the canonical 1970 cm^{-1} CO stretching frequency observed in carbonyl hemes results from solid-state interactions. Molecules of the $[\text{Fe}(\text{TPP})(1,2\text{-Me}_2\text{Im})(\text{CO})]$ and $[\text{Fe}(\text{TPP})(2\text{-MeHIm})(\text{CO})]$ toluene solvates pack into lattices that place the imidazole from an adjacent molecule near the carbonyl group. In $[\text{Fe}(\text{TPP})(2\text{-MeHIm})(\text{CO})]$ hydrogen interactions from an N–H imidazole shift the CO stretching frequency to 1926 cm^{-1} . The toluene solvate of $[\text{Fe}(\text{TPP})(1,2\text{-Me}_2\text{Im})(\text{CO})]$ has a disordered 1,2-dimethylimidazole (62%/38%) that creates two distinct environments for CO and result in the splitting of the CO stretching frequency. The high precision of these four structures allows us to make a number of structural and spectroscopic correlations that describe the Fe–C–O unit, and the nonbonding interactions in the solid-state. The interactions described are closely related to the large range of CO stretching frequencies, $1904\text{ to }1984\text{ cm}^{-1}$, observed in heme proteins and specific interactions observed in carbonmonoxy myoglobin. We would like to acknowledge support by NIH GM38401.

